To the Commerce Committee:

## Please vote NO to HB 5263

- 1- Rabbits are the third most common household pet after dogs and cats. I know many people who have kept and loved rabbits as their indoor pets and can't imagine them considering this a food source.
- 2- Due to public pressure, Petco and PetSmart stopped selling pet rabbits.

  They now only display rescue rabbits for adoption the same treatment they give to dogs and cats. THIS is what the citizens want.
- 3-Whole Foods and other specialty stores stopped selling rabbit meat after concluding there was no market for sales. People do not want nor do they need to consume what is considered a companion animal.
- 4-The multi-billion-dollar cosmetic industry has been moving away from using rabbits and other animals in their testing programs due to consumer pressure. There are so many other methods of testing products. This is an especially cruel and inhumane practice. Again, ending the use of animal testing is what the citizens want.

5-While the rest of the country has recognized and elevated rabbits as pets, <u>CT is taking a step backward</u> in proposing this initiative. Speak Up for Animals. They are counting on you.

Linda Pleva 23 Norton Place Plainville, CT 06062

## I VOTE

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